



Recycling Lines

Electronic Newsletter

December 2008

Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Environmental Enhancement

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DEQ's Community Involvement Initiative: The Department of Environmental Quality is dedicated to helping the public better understand DEQ's role in protecting the environment, and to involving the public more effectively in environmental decision making.

Welcome to Recycling Lines, We hope that some of this information is helpful to you in your programs, and hope you'll help us with news from your area related recycling. Let us know by sending this information to Steve Coe at gscoe@deq.virginia.gov.

Radford University Commits to the Green Track

In a recent story in the Roanoke Times, Radford University's environmental initiatives were highlighted. RU's "green" initiatives include:

All the buses, mowers and other diesel-powered equipment on campus now run on fuel that's 20 percent bio-diesel

Every light bulb on campus that can be a compact fluorescent is now a compact fluorescent, reducing energy demand and cost

RU has a system that controls heating, air conditioning and air flow in buildings across campus from one location, allowing for more monitoring of the individual units

Its trayless food court is cutting food waste by about 20 Percent, and saving tens of thousands of gallons of water

Electric vehicles are used across campus -- including the vehicles that collect recyclable materials

RU does not issue a paper university telephone book, providing this information on its web site instead

Housekeeping uses environmentally friendly cleaning products

RU generated about 30 percent less waste that had to go to the landfill over the past year

For more information, please contact Mr. Julio Stephens, the university's Sustainability Coordinator at 540-831-7206 or via email at wstephe@radford.edu.

REMEMBER: Recycling is a conscious choice we make each day to throw something away as trash, or to recycle it to save energy and resources.

Did You Know?

- ✓ Virginian's recycled over 3.6 million tons of material in 2007. See the report at www.deq.virginia.gov/recycle.
- ✓ The National Recycling Coalition offers **Frequently Asked Questions** about recycling and its effect on Climate Change. Visit <http://www.nrc-recycle.org/faqs.aspx>. Also see other information resources at <http://www.nrc-recycle.org/resources.aspx>.

Glass Industry Sets 50% Content Goal

The Glass Packaging Institute recently announced an initiative to use at least 50% recycled glass in making new glass bottles and jars. The association hopes that its members will be able to reach this goal by 2013.

The use of recycled glass, known as cullet in the industry, saves energy and natural resources. A spokesman for the association indicated that the industry was set to look at "all measures that efficiently and cost-effectively improve glass recovery."

For more information, visit www.gpi.org.

Calendar of Events

December

- 4 Recycling Markets Development Council meeting at DEQ's Piedmont Regional Office, Glen Allen
- 25 Happy Holiday – state offices close at noon on 12/24 and reopen on 12/29

January

- 1 Happy New Year – state offices are closed on January 1 and 2

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